Wardha on international map

2118. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to put Wardha on international map;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it is a work place of Gandhi but most of the area adjoining to this place in Wardha is under encroachment; if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of Government's plan for the beautification of this area and make this place tourism oriented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Overseas Tourist Offices of Ministry of Tourism run promotional campaigns to position India as an attractive tourist destination and provide information on all places of tourist interest in the country to prospective visitors.

(b) and (c) Maintenance and development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts. However, Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments. No proposal has been received from the State Government of Maharashtra for development / beautification of Wardha which is associated with the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

Proposed amusement park in Bangalore

2119. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to develop a park in Bangalore on the lines of Disney Land;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be spent by Government;

(c) whether the State Government has agreed to provide land and other infrastructural facilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (e) An important aspect of the celebrations of the Golden Jubilee of the Republic would be creation of assets and promotion

& dissemination of our rich cultural heritage. Towards this end, Govt. have decided, in principle to set up Bharat Darshan Science / Culture Parks / theme parks to showcase our cultural heritage, promote science education and project our scientific achievements. The concept is in the process of elaboration.

Government gives priority to Eco-friendly tourism including setting up of theme parks. Any proposal which is prioritised in this context is given due consideration by the Ministry of Tourism.

Harassment of foreign tourists

†2120. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the foreign tourists are compelled to purchase the items by the shopkeepers of shops situated at Janpath in Connaught Place and they are harassed in different manners which not only adversely affect tourism but also presents a bad image of the nation;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to stop such type of harassment of foreign tourists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Ministry of Tourism has not received any specific complaint from foreign tourists regarding harassment by shopkeepers at Janpath in Connaught Place.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Tourism officials in "Agreed List' of CBI

2121. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of officials of ITDC and Ministry of Tourism / DoT have been on the "Agreed List' of CBI during the last four years and as on date due to their various irregularities and corrupt practices on their respective posts.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.